

Building for Tomorrow

The Indian River Inlet Bridge Newsletter

A publication by the Delaware Department of Transportation (DelDOT)

February 2011



Craig Stevens
(DelDOT)

In this month's issue of *Building for Tomorrow*, we are going to be discussing the outreach that is being done for the building of the new Indian River Inlet Bridge. Though outreach doesn't involve picking up a hammer or pouring concrete, it's still an important component of not only this project, but of any project that is done by DelDOT. Outreach makes sure that the public, that's you, is informed about the different projects that are underway and what is involved

in their construction. It also involves things like this newsletter and school visits, which takes us to this month's guest.

This month's featured guest is Craig Stevens, a Structural Engineer with DelDOT. You may recognize Mr. Stevens if you've ever visited the construction site or had a school presentation about the bridge. He enjoys the work that he does on the site, but also likes to teach people, young and old, about how the new Indian River Inlet Bridge is being built.

What Is Public Outreach and Why Is It Important To A Bridge

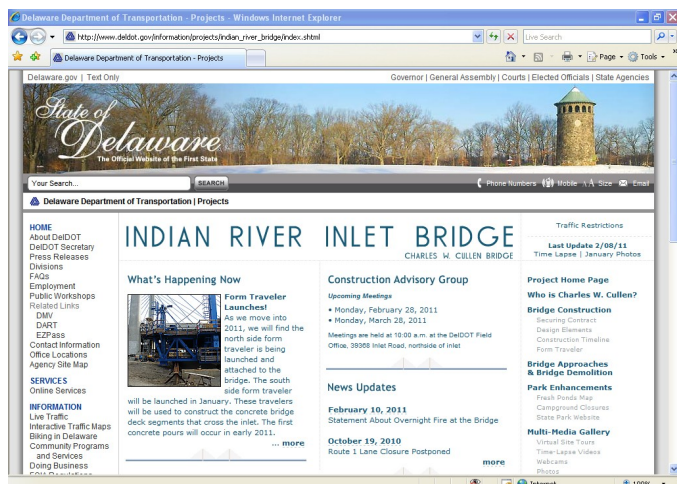


You may look at a road or a bridge and think that they are only made of concrete or asphalt, but there is a lot of work that is done off of the job site that is very important. Work ranges from when the project starts and how much it's going to cost to when the project is scheduled to be finished. All of that information falls under the title of Public Outreach.

Public outreach can also come in many forms. It can be an interview done in a newspaper or on television to a school visit, site tour, and even an email or phone call. It's important to let people know what goes into building large projects like the new Indian River Inlet Bridge, and the various ways we communicate our projects to the public.

So the next time you look at a project, remember the work that goes into it doesn't just happen on the job site.

Indian River Inlet Bridge on the Internet!



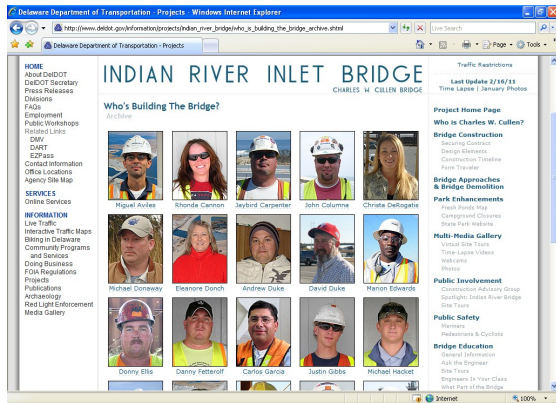
A view of the website that serves as a source of information on the internet for the new Indian River Inlet Bridge. (DelDOT)

Who would have ever thought that a bridge could have its own website? Well, the new Indian River Inlet Bridge is one of the lucky ones with a permanent web address, irib.delDOT.gov, that you can go to any time, any day. When you visit the site, you have an opportunity to find all of the information that you need to feel like you are really at the job site without all of the dust and dirt.

This site is one that was setup as another outreach tool that DelDOT can use to give people, including you, an up close view of what goes into building the bridge, the history of the current building project and of the bridges that have stood at the site in the past, meeting dates and schedules, news releases, and a lot of other information.

In this article we're going to take a look at two of the areas of the site that you might want to check out.

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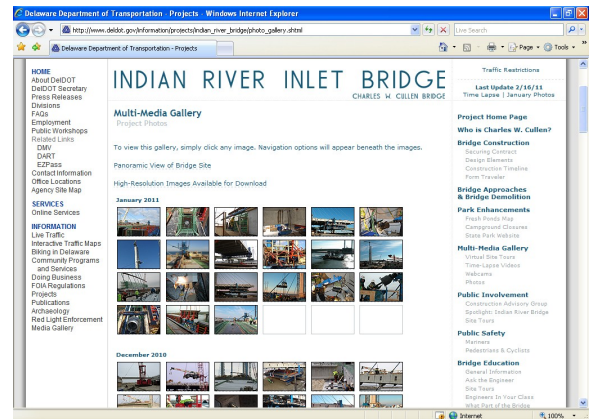


Who's Building The Bridge

In "Who's Building The Bridge" you can see wide variety of people that we've featured throughout the project who have been involved in the building of the new Indian River Inlet Bridge. The workforce at the bridge is made up of a wide variety people, making a very diverse workplace. There are people working there who grew up right here in Delaware or along the east coast, but there are other people who have come from around the world to work on the bridge from places like Sweden, England, Mexico, and France. No matter if they're from down the road or around the world, the people building the bridge care about their work and about the bridge they are building.

Multi-Media Gallery - Project Photos

You may look at the different issues of this newsletter and wish that you could see more of the great photos that we feature. Well, you can! In the project site we have a gallery that houses project photos starting from the beginning of the project to the current time. These photos show areas of the site that most people would never be able to access, like the top of the tower crane that helped to build the towers that were completed several months ago. These pictures act as a visual timeline for the project and let people see the project from a wide variety of different places. You can even check back each month to see new photos that are posted. There are even photos that have been taken from a plane above the site!



A Moment of Bridge History



This aerial photo of the Indian River Inlet was taken in 1930. You may notice that something that you see in most modern photos of the area is missing. This photo was taken prior to the construction of Route 1 (Ocean Highway), the route that most people take today to travel along the coast of Delaware.

Other Ways To Get The Message Out!



**Indian River Inlet Bridge
Roadway Approach Contract Awarded**

News: The Delaware Department of Transportation (DDOT) announced that Skanska USA, Civil Southeast, Inc. has been awarded the Roadway Approach and Bridge Deckwork Contract for the Indian River Inlet Bridge.

Design: Design, President of Skanska & Lynch, stated, "Skanska & Lynch is pleased to be the lead design engineer for the new Indian River Inlet Bridge. It is a privilege to be a part of this project and we look forward to working with DDOT and the public to ensure the bridge is built to the highest standards. It is also exciting to see that Skanska & Lynch has been awarded the contract to build the bridge. We look forward to getting started."

Design & Lynch was recently awarded the \$14.4 million contract to build the roadway approaches for the new Indian River Inlet Bridge and the existing Indian River Inlet Bridge. This work will occur in three phases over a 12-month period.

Phase 1:

- The work will occur March-May 2011, with a traffic pattern in place by Memorial Day Weekend 2011.
- The contractor will perform median work between the Route 1 on-ramp and on-ramp lanes as they approach existing approaches to establish a new traffic pattern to allow for construction of the roadway approaches.
- The new traffic pattern will place Route 1 on-ramp and on-ramp lanes in each direction of the existing on-ramp lanes.
- The Route 1 on-ramp lanes will be used exclusively for pedestrian and bicycle traffic during construction. Additional signage and markings will be placed accordingly.
- The current speed limit of 25 mph throughout work area will remain in effect.

Phase 2:

- Phase 2 is expected to begin by Memorial Day 2011 and continue into December 2011.
- Construction of the new Inlet 1 north and south bridge approaches will be done using a lightweight concrete fill that will be the base material and subgrade material. The amount of fill material for this area was also reduced because the design of the new bridge incorporated traditional bridge approach spans which allow the pier to sit on the ground.
- These approaches will ultimately provide a connection from the existing roadway to the new Indian River Inlet Bridge which, under construction, will be open to traffic by the end of December 2011.

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Along with using our website, there are a lot of other methods that are used to get out the message about the new Indian River Inlet Bridge. To the left is a page from a news release that was recently released about the bridge. These releases are sent to members of the media so that they have information to write or produce stories about the bridge.



Do you want to take a tour at the site of the new Indian River Inlet Bridge this spring?

You can sign up your class or group to take a tour!

[Click Here to Sign Up!](#)

Another tool that we use to give the public an up close view of what's going on at the site are open houses/public workshops. These events let people walk around the site, see the work that's being done, and ask our bridge builders any questions that they may have. They are also a lot of fun and everyone at the site enjoys showing off their hard work.



One last tool involves students, like you, visiting the site or us visiting your school. School is important and we want to show how you can use what you're learning to become the future bridge builders of tomorrow.



Employee Spotlight!

This is where you get to meet someone who is building the Indian River Inlet Bridge!



What is your name?: Marion Edwards

Where are you employed?: Skanska USA, Civil Southeast, Inc.; employed for 9 years

What is your job title?: Concrete Superintendent

Where are you from?: Hartsville, SC & Atlanta, GA

Where do you live now?: Ocean View, DE

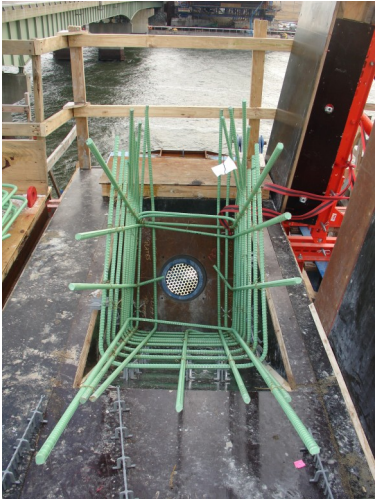
What are some special skills that you bring to the project?: I have 25 years of construction experience.

What is your favorite part about working on this project?: I love working outside and on construction!



Photos from the Job Site

January 2011



A view of one of the anchor boxes before the stay cables are put in place on the new Indian River Inlet Bridge (Skanska USA Civil Southeast).



A view from the form traveler on the north side of the new Indian River Inlet Bridge looking toward the Indian River Bay (Skanska USA Civil Southeast).



The form traveler sits attached on the edge of the north side of the new Indian River Inlet Bridge as it is used to lay road deck over the churning waters of the inlet (Skanska USA Civil Southeast).



Published by the Delaware Department of Transportation's
Office of Public Relations

800 Bay Road, P.O. Box 778
Dover, DE 19903
1-800-652-5600 or 302-760-2080
dotpr@state.de.us

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